



# Superfund Redevelopment Pilots

## Torch Lake (Calumet Lake Portion) Calumet, MI

EPA's Superfund Redevelopment Initiative (SRI) is a nationally coordinated effort to facilitate the return of Superfund sites to productive use by selecting response actions consistent with anticipated use. The SRI Pilots are intended to help local governments enhance their involvement in the Superfund decision-making process by assisting EPA in predicting future land uses for Superfund sites. Under the Pilot Program, EPA will provide up to \$100,000 in financial assistance and/or services to local governments for specified activities. Applicants are offered several types of program assistance, including funding through a cooperative agreement, access to facilitation services, and/or the availability of personnel under the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA).

### BACKGROUND

EPA selected the City of Calumet, Michigan, for a Superfund Redevelopment Pilot. Calumet is home to the Torch Lake Superfund site. The city is focusing on the Calumet Lake portion of the site, which is a 6.2-acre area by Calumet Lake in the northernmost part of the site above the former copper mining district where large quantities of sand from the mines were deposited. The site is within the boundary of the Calumet National Historic Landmark District and the Keweenaw National Historical Park. Calumet Lake, formed by the construction of Calumet Dam, provided water for a copper separation mill and continued to serve as a water reservoir for local mines until the 1980s. The local economy became severely depressed with the closure of the copper mines in 1968. The city is on Michigan's list of distressed communities. In June 1986, EPA added the site to its list of hazardous waste sites needing cleanup.

### OBJECTIVES

Calumet will use Pilot funds to assess the site and determine the best options for future use. This effort will include in-depth analysis to show the community that reuse of the site is safe and beneficial. Calumet would like parts of the site used for recreation, which may include the restoration of the natural environment and the preservation of historic buildings.

### PILOT SNAPSHOT



**Applicant Name:** Calumet, MI

**Site Name:** Torch Lake (Calumet Lake Portion)

**Date of Selection:** July 2000

**Anticipated Award:** Cooperative Agreement (\$25,000)

**Profile:** Calumet will assess a portion of the Torch Lake Superfund site and determine the best use of the area.

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